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PATENT APPLICATION  
Docket No. 15621.2**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of )

Byron G. Merrell et al. )

Serial No.: )

10/767,871 )

Filing Date: )

January 29, 2004 )

Confirmation No.: )

4119 )

For: )

RETORT HEATING APPARATUS AND  
METHODS OF USE )

Examiner: )

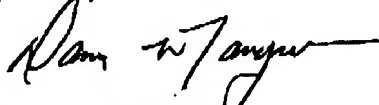
Alexis A. Wachtel )

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION BY FACSIMILE**

I hereby certify that the following documents are being facsimile transmitted to United States Patent and Trademark Office at Fax No. 571.273.8300, on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of December 2005.

- Transmittal Letter for Amendment "A" and Response (3 pages)
- Amendment "A" and Response (17 pages)
- Transmittal for Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (3 pages)
- Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages)
- Form PTO-1449 listing 2 references (1 page)
- PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$330

Respectfully submitted,



DANA L. TANGREN  
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PATENT APPLICATION

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Examiner:

Alexis A. Wachtel

TRANSMITTAL FOR AMENDMENT "A"  
AND RESPONSEMail Stop AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment "A" and Response for entry in the  
above-identified application.Small entity status of this application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.9 and § 1.27  
has been established by a verified statement previously submitted.To secure the approval of the Examiner for proposed amendments to the  
drawings, enclosed are the following:Set of \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) sheets of drawings containing Figures  
\_\_\_\_\_ including the proposed amendments therein; and

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\* Admitted only in California  
\* Admitted only in Virginia

December 7, 2005

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\_\_\_\_\_ A duplicate set of the \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) sheets of drawings with the changes therein highlighted in red.

\_\_\_\_\_ To render the transmitted Amendment "A" and Response timely filed enclosed are the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ Petition for a \_\_\_\_\_-Month Extension of Time; and

\_\_\_\_\_ Check No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to cover the fee for the extension of time.

X A Certificate of Facsimile Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10.

\_\_\_\_\_ No other additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as follows:

			SMALL ENTITY		LARGE ENTITY	
CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER	HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDT'L FEE	RATE	ADDT'L FEE
TOTAL 45	MINUS 39	" 6	X 25	150	X	
INDEPENDENT 4	MINUS 3	= 1	X 100	100	X	
1 <sup>st</sup> PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM			+ _____		+ _____	
			TOTAL	250	TOTAL	

X Form PTO-2038 submitting Credit Card Payment in the amount of \$250.00 is enclosed to cover the additional claim fee.

\_\_\_\_\_ Please charge my Deposit Account No. 23-3178 in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_.

X The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3178.

X Any filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16 for the presentation of extra claims.

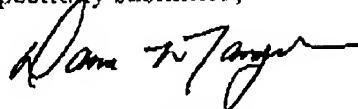
X Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.

\_\_\_\_\_ A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

December 7, 2005  
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Dated this 7<sup>th</sup> day of December 2005.

Respectfully submitted,



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